

CONSUL-GEN'L LEE.

NO INTIMATION AT WASHINGTON THAT HE IS SOON TO RETURN.

COERCION OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.

PLAN NOW TO PREVENT DEMONSTRATIONS FROM REGISTERING.

THE DECOY TICKETS LAWYERS.

The Welcome That Will Be Accorded Them in the Regions They Propose to Visit Will Probably Not Be Warm—Political Notes.

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 25.—(Special.)—Inquiry at the State Department to-day resulted in ascertaining that no intimation of an apprehension of ill health had been received from anybody concerning Consul-General Lee, at Habana. The department is in constant receipt of communications from General Lee—one as late as to-day—and there has not been the remotest expression of a desire on his part to come home. His health is presumably excellent. Yellow fever, to a greater or less extent, always prevails at Habana, but the worst of the former season is now over, and at no time has General Lee considered himself in any danger from the malarial. He went to Cuba with a full knowledge of the health conditions, of the climate, and fully prepared to guard against yellow fever, and other diseases peculiar to the country.

General Lee said to the Dispatch correspondent before going that he did not intend to return this fall, but would send for Mrs. Lee and the other members of his family in October. He fully realized the importance of his mission, and had no idea of abandoning himself from his position at a time critical as the period he has been in Cuba. If General Lee were here, there is no doubt that, like all the other Lees, he would be in line with his people and party.

RAILWAY BULLDOZING.

Mr. H. L. McDonald, of this city, has received a letter from a gentleman in Indianapolis giving a description of the balloting methods used by the Big Four railroad company, of which Mr. M. E. Ingalls is president, at Indianapolis. Instances are given where Democrats were compelled to sign a circular, of which the following is a copy:

"We, the undersigned employees of the Cleveland, Chicago, Cincinnati and St. Louis railroad, believing that the election of any man to the high office of President of the United States on a free-silver platform would be ruinous to the country, and against the best interests of the wage-earner; and, believing that the Republican party, in its national convention, held at St. Louis, which speaks out strong for stable currency, will, if possible, elect a Republican, do hereby pledge ourselves to do all in our power to defeat the candidate nominated on a free-silver platform, and also to elect the men nominated at the Republican convention held at St. Louis."

Mr. McDonald's correspondent also gave the name of a friend and workman on the road who was and always had been a Republican, and who declared that he had signed the circular, but that he had since so far had him change his mind, and that he and other Republican workmen who had signed intended to vote for Bryan.

MICHIGAN.

A correspondent at Kalamazoo, Mich., writes: "As you will find by reference to statistics, this is the strongest Republican city in Michigan. Kalamazoo contains a large number of corporations and banks, and is the center of the money power in the State, with the possible exception of Detroit and Grand Rapids. In this district, at a congressional convention held on Wednesday at Battle Creek, A. M. Todd was unanimously elected by a plurality of over 2,000. Mr. Todd cut Burrows's majority down to 130."

"Notwithstanding the heavy Republican majority in former years, the Republicans are making a good fight here, and they have ever made before. They are employing every preacher they can, and every other person who will work for them. They employ a large number of men to take bicycle trips among the farmers, and they call on some fictitious errand and incidentally caution the farmer and the laborer against the free-traders and silver mine-owners. They are very active, and they are afraid of the people are with us."

"So, in addition to the other methods known to the railroad and other corporations have begun a system of coercion of their employees, and the banks of their debtors that is perfectly brutal. And yet Mr. Todd's friends are hopeful that he will win, and in making the campaign they are going to help carry Michigan for Bryan by a routing majority. The writer is an confident of Mr. Bryan's carrying Michigan as he is of any political thing in the future."

PREVENTION OF REGISTRATION.

Complaints of railroad coercion of employees are becoming so numerous that the Democratic leaders are considering measures to counteract the nefarious tactics to cast their votes guaranteed them by the Constitution and laws of the country. The complaints come chiefly from West Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Maryland. It is reported that in the last named State the railroad corporations, through their managers, have advised their Democratic employees that it will be for their interest not to register for the coming election. They believe that this peculiar method will be more effective than direct intimidation or persuasion. This appeal is accompanied by the statement that while during the early part of the campaign tons of gold literature were distributed among the men, reminding them that the interests of the roads would be injured by the free coinage of silver, their hands were payable in gold, and as they would have to purchase that metal to pay interest, it would be necessary to curtail expenses and disburse with the services of a large percentage of their employees.

This kind of argument was not considered effective. The intelligent workmen might not be gulled, and the corporations are afraid to trust them at the polls. They might not vote the McKinley forceful ticket when they went into the polling booth. They could not be trusted to arrange their own ballots as the secrecy of the booth protected them from detection, and it would be difficult to "spot" the offenders for future discharge. For this reason they have now resorted to the more plausible method of trying to prevent the men from registering.

FEAR OF BEING BLACKLISTED.

Now it is the belief that if the employees insist upon exercising their right of suffrage as American citizens they will be "spotted" and marked for future vengeance. Of course, after the persuasive efforts not to register fail, it will be taken as proof positive by the railroad officials that the employee is determined to vote for Bryan and Sewall, and consequently he must go. It is by such methods as

this and the expenditure of millions of dollars that the McKinley forces expect to carry the election in November, but there will be a day of reckoning if they succeed, and it may probably come before the 5th of March next.

Another instance of the coercion methods of the railroad managers comes from Ohio, in a letter received from a railroad man in Columbus, in that State, which concludes as follows:

"And you have seen in the newspapers, I guess, an account of the parade of the railroad men in the Pennsylvania line, addressed the Railway Gold-Bug Club. Well, there were a great many in line—some say 2,000—and there was a good deal of applause. But the men were not there because they wanted to be, but because they feared to be blacklisted and discharged if they failed to turn out."

"If," said a leading Democrat, "the election is carried by such methods as these, and the unlimited use of money, there will be trouble."

NEW JERSEY.

Perhaps the best-posted man in New Jersey politics is Mr. W. S. McKean, the organizer of the State Democratic Society of New Jersey, who conducted the anti-convention campaign for Cleveland in 1892, and who has since visited every part of the State. Mr. McKean was shown to-day the list of the electoral ticket of the Democratic bolters of New Jersey, and asked what would be the effect of the third ticket in that State. "I know all of them by reputation, and most of them personally," said Mr. McKean. "There is but one active politician in the lot. It is a dress-parade ticket, and not a vote-getting ticket. It will not affect the result in New Jersey. I have looked over all the counties of the State, and I cannot see where the ticket will get over 3,000 votes, and that means that there is a good hope of New Jersey's remaining in the Democratic column, where she has been for so many years. The electoral ticket is almost entirely composed of persons interested in trusts and moneyed corporations. There is no particular State issue, except the bad record of the Republican State administration, which has been conducted with extravagance and in the interest of the corporations, in many of which the Republican candidate for the vice-presidency is interested. On the national issues New Jersey is Democratic. Our losses will principally come from Bergen, Essex, and Union counties, and our gains will be throughout the State, notably in the southern and northwestern portions of the State, among the farmers, and generally among the laboring men. Of course, the new campaign method of coercion, among the railroad-men especially, has been initiated, but, owing to an excellent ballot system coercion cannot successfully be practiced."

"What about the new chairman of the State Committee?"

"Well, of course, we regret that Senator Smith is not in full sympathy with the Democratic platform, and, therefore, thought best to resign, but his successor, Colonel E. L. Price, of Newark, is qualified in every way to conduct an energetic and aggressive campaign. He is just the man for this campaign, popular among the masses, a thorough organizer, and well acquainted with every section of the State. He has shown his capacity to make winning fights nobly last spring, as chairman of the Essex County Committee."

"Of course, I realize the fact that the Republicans and their allies, the trusts and corporations, will strain every nerve to win, and I realize that New Jersey may be classed as a doubtful State, but I sincerely believe, knowing the State as I think I do, that New Jersey will cast her electoral vote for Bryan and Sewall."

W. K. Corson, secretary of the Bryan and Sewall Club, of Camden, N. J., writes: "We are doing a good work here. We will lose but few Democratic votes, and gain more Republicans. On November 3d next I think you will hear that New Jersey has given her electoral vote for Bryan and Sewall."

Continuing, he said: "In planning over the list of my legal brethren, who assembled in Richmond a few days ago for the alleged purpose of taking steps to prevent fraud in the elections this fall, I noticed the names of several gentlemen whom rumor has connected with every political job pulled off in their respective localities for years. It reminded me of General Mosby's lamentation for Virginia during the war, when he said: 'The Virginian has become a bad name. In his eventful existence when Billy Mahone is teaching his people morals, and Dick Farr teaching them how to spell.'"

PERSONAL.

Hon. R. T. Hubbard, of Buckingham, is in the city, stopping at the Metropolitan. Messrs. W. J. Ficklen and F. P. Parrish, of Charlottesville, are at the same hotel.

Mrs. A. C. Merriman, of Richmond, is stopping at the Coghlan.

Colonel Preston, of Charlottesville, paid a visit to General George Hampton, of the Metropolitan, yesterday. Judge T. J. Mackey, of South Carolina, also called on the General.

R. S. Fletcher and wife, of Eagle Rock, Va., are in the Raleigh.

E. M. Nettleton and J. S. Hurn, of Covington, Va., are at the St. James.

Manager T. G. Leath, of the Academy of Music, Richmond, is also registered at the St. James.

Star-service changes have been made as follows:

North Carolina—Wheeler to Sutherlands. From October 1, 1896 (Bulletin 532), changing schedule. Acc. should state "increase service to three times a week."

Virginia—Trevilians to Bells Cross-Roads. From September 21, 1896, change service so as to omit Fishman (discontinued), decreasing distance one and a half miles.

Bismarck on Bimetallism.

Text of His Letter as Published Authentically.

FRIEDRICHSHUHE, September 25.—A representative of the Southern Associated Press arrived here from Berlin to-day and proceeded to the residence of Prince Bismarck, in the hope of being able to see the ex-Chancellor personally, and learn from his own lips the truth as to the authenticity of the text of his recent letter on the subject of bimetallism, addressed to Governor Culberson, of Texas. The correspondent was met by Count von Rantzau, Prince Bismarck's son-in-law, who took a message to the ex-Chancellor, returning in a few minutes with the answer that the Prince was sorry he was not able to see the visitor in person, but that the text of his letter, as published in the Hamburger Nachrichten, Prince Bismarck's own organ, was authentic.

Mrs. Albert Sydney Johnston Dend.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., September 25.—Mrs. Eliza Griffin Johnston, the widow of General Albert Sydney Johnston, died in this city yesterday, at the home of her son-in-law, United States Attorney Dennis. She was 74 years old. Her former home was in Kentucky.

THE SILVER WAGON.

MR. BLAKE'S MISSION ON WHEELS BEGINS ITS CAMPAIGN.

SPEECHES, SONGS, AND LITERATURE.

Earnest Words of Advice Given the Voters, and Much Reading Matter Distributed—Captain Lamb Speaks at Barton Heights.

If the mountain will not come to Mahomet, Mahomet must go to the mountain, and if the people will not attend political meetings, the political meetings must go to them.

That is the belief of Mr. George McKean, one of the most energetic workers in the Democratic fold in this city, and while all the free-silver meetings that have been held in Richmond have been largely attended, there are a class of people who do not attend meetings of any



kind, and it is this class that Mr. Blake proposes to reach.

He has started a mission on wheels, a sort of free-silver gospel-wagon, and, coming here, he will be giving out the list of my legal brethren, who assembled in Richmond a few days ago for the alleged purpose of taking steps to prevent fraud in the elections this fall.

The wagon will go out again to-morrow night, and will stop at some point on Oregon Hill, to be decided upon later, where speeches will be made by several well-known speakers.

THE NOMINEE ADDRESSES A LARGE GATHERING OVER THERE.

The Bryan-Sewall Club of Barton Heights held their regular monthly meeting in the Wigwam at the pretty little village in last night. There were present almost all of the voters of the precinct, and a number of ladies. Captain John Lamb, Democratic nominee for Congress from this district, and Mr. S. P. Waddill, addressed the gathering, and were warmly applauded. Captain Lamb was accompanied by a most hearty reception.

After the business of the club had been transacted, President Thomas W. Gardiner, in a neat speech, presented Captain Lamb as the "next congressman from this district." The nominee said he was glad to be with the club, and would have come sooner had the opportunity offered itself. The Chicago platform, he said, would stand the criticism of the American people, and they would stand by it.

At the close of Captain Lamb's speech S. P. Waddill, Clerk of the County Court of Henrico, was called upon, and in a brief speech, full of strong argument, entertained the gathering. Mr. Waddill read a number of extracts from speeches of great men, showing that silver again on a par with gold, would make better times.

HISTORY OF THE CLUB.

The Barton Heights Bryan-Sewall Club was organized August 7th last, with the following gentlemen as officers: Thomas W. Gardiner, president, and B. L. Ragland, secretary. Although young in years, these gentlemen are justly entitled to the distinction of being called veterans in the cause of Democracy, for their duties have been arduous, and rendered with cheerfulness and ability that have characterized them in their every undertaking.

Mr. Gardiner is a young member of the legal profession, but he has rapidly forged to the front in organizing the Barton Heights Club he met and overcame serious obstacles. With the apathy usually manifested in political matters to

the same principles were laid down there that had been in all Democratic platforms.

ARGUMENT FOR FREE SILVER.

Captain Lamb then took up the money question, and for some time presented some facts and figures that greatly enlightened his audience. He said the devaluation of silver was effected in in-

streets, where a crowd had already collected in anticipation of its coming. The vehicle was stopped under an electric light, and as soon as the audience assembled the quartette, under the leadership of Mr. Archie Woodbridge, rendered a free-silver song, concluding with an appeal to hard times to "come no more."

Mr. Blake introduced Mr. Justis, who made a ringing speech of about an hour's duration, and during the course of his remarks the young lawyer eulogized both Mr. Bryan, the Democratic nominee, and the platform of the party adopted at Chicago. After setting forth that the minor issues of the platform were in this campaign subordinated to the financial plank, Mr. Justis plunged into a discussion of the currency question, and made a magnificent argument for a double standard. He laid special stress on the fact that the Republicans had utterly failed to offer any relief in their platform for the evils that exist, and concluded with an appeal to his hearers to go to the polls in November and vote directly for Bryan, Sewall, and Lamb.

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THE SILVER GOSPEL WAGON.

(AS IT APPEARED AT SPRING AND BELVIDERE STREETS LAST NIGHT, SHOWING ALDERMAN BLAKE, WHOSE LIKENESS IS SHOWN IN THE UPPER LEFT HAND CORNER, MAKING HIS SPEECH FROM THE REAR.)

Mr. Blake spoke for about three quarters of an hour, during which time he traced the growth of the free-silver sentiment in this city from its origin about twelve months ago to the present time, and when he concluded he opened several packages which were stowed away in the wagon, and distributed a quantity of Democratic campaign literature, which was taken with avidity by the voters who composed the audience.

OTHER PLACES VISITED.

The wagon drove from its first stopping-place to the engine-house on Laurel street, where several campaign songs were sung by the quartette, and considerable literature was distributed. The vehicle returned from there to the stable, but, on route, stopped by the Jefferson, where campaign songs were also sung.

The wagon will go out again to-morrow night, and will stop at some point on Oregon Hill, to be decided upon later, where speeches will be made by several well-known speakers.

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The Nominee Addresses a Large Gathering Over There.

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test of European money kings. By this act, the speaker continued, the circulating medium was greatly reduced, and business depression was the natural result. Labor and agriculture had especially felt the injurious effect of this change in our financial system. The speaker called attention to the condition of the people in this country, and said there was not half enough money to do business on, and labor was in consequence going idle.

WILL BE NO DUMPING-GROUND.

Captain Lamb discussed and ridiculed the contention of the gold-bugs that the silver of the world would be dumped on us, and, continuing, said:

"With \$500,000,000 the country has once freed herself from England, and now, with 75,000,000, we should certainly shape our own policy. The other countries will follow, for the people over there want silver back. Even in England there are people crying for the white metal."

Bankholders, bankers, railroads, and other moneyed men were against silver, Captain Lamb asserted, but the honest farmer and merchant wanted the silver dollar to stand equal with the gold. It was sure that right and justice would prevail over evil, and it was the duty of all to join hands and in the ranks of the Democratic party seek relief.

The congressional candidate then ap-



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disorganized number of voters a club so enthusiastic as this, and one that has been recognized by the opposition as one of the most aggressive in this district.

Mr. Ragland is also a man of splendid executive ability, and in every way fitted to act as the assistant of Mr. Gardiner. The result of the election will be put forth by these two gentlemen will be best shown by the splendid majority which this precinct will give Bryan, Sewall, and Lamb.

Madison-Ward Club Meets.

Madison-Ward Democratic club organized last night at the Bowman club-house, with President James T. Ferriter in the chair.

There was a large attendance of members from all four precincts, and all of them spoke encouragingly of the outlook for the campaign.

Mr. Jefferson Wallace, superintendent of the ward, addressed the club at length, outlining the plan of campaign adopted by the City Democratic Committee, and the club promised to furnish a plenty of volunteers to carry out the work.

The club adopted the shamrock as its campaign badge, and hereafter when you see a man wearing on his coat a bit of green cloth, fashioned like a shamrock, remember that it is a true and tried Madison-Ward Democrat.

Mr. Charles M. Wallace, Jr., presidential elector for this district, left for the Fourth District on an early train yesterday. He was to speak yesterday afternoon at a big barbecue at Green Day, at Crewe last night, and is expected to address a crowd of 2,000 or 3,000 people at Lawrenceville, in Brunswick county, to-morrow.

The Mitchellites Are Still Mad.

An indignation meeting of Mitchellites, under the guise of the Republican City Committee, was held at Custal's Hall last night, and a number of negroes spoke, denouncing the action of the Allan-Waddill faction at the district convention at Hanover Courthouse as both fraudulent and calculated to defeat the party interests in this district.

Resolutions were adopted to be presented to the State Committee Monday, memorializing them to unseat the Allan committeemen and seat those elected by Mitchell's bolters.

Several of the speakers said that unless this was done the Republican voters in their wards would refuse to support Judge Lewis for Congress, and James Slater, of King William, said that if the party were so much aroused over the injustice done Mitchell that unless he was recognized by the State Committee they would refuse to vote at all.

TO SPEAK WITH JUDGE LEWIS.

It was announced yesterday that Colonel James Lyons, who recently declared his purpose to support Judge Lewis, would stump this district with Judge Lewis, the Republican nominee for Congress. Colonel Lyons has been put up as elector by the Haben-Mitchell faction of Republicans.

FORM A STOCK COMPANY.

Richmond Base-Ball Association Will Be the Name Hereafter.

Mr. W. B. Bradley, owner of the Richmond Base-Ball Club, has decided to divide honors with people of Richmond, and will form a stock company to control the club hereafter. He will form a stock company, to be known as the Richmond Base-Ball Association.